## BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

CUCAMONGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NO. 2012120778

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE AND SETTING MED/PHC/HRG

On January 15, 2013, the parties filed a first stipulated request for a continuance that will result in the hearing starting over 90 days from the initial start date. The reason given was that the parties had entered an interim agreement for pre-hearing assessments as part of settlement discussions and needed additional time to conduct the assessments and discuss the results

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

Granted. All dates are vacated. However, given the extraordinary length of the first continuance, further continuances are not contemplated. This matter will be set as follows:

> Mediation: April 23, 2013 at 9:30 AM Prehearing Conference: May 6, 2013 at 1:30 PM

Due Process Hearing: May 13-16, 2013 at 1:30 PM first day, 9:30 AM

> other days, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the

Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 15, 2013

/s/ RICHARD T. BREEN

Presiding Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings